## A CHRISTMAS DUTY.

Sufferings of Our Prisoners Among the Rebels.

Touching Appeals from Richmond, Tuscaloosa, Charleston, &c.

Are We Insensible to the Privations of Those Who Have Bled for Us?

NECESSITY FOR IMMEDIATE EXERTION.

Demands for Blankets, Clothing and Other Necessaries.

LET ALL AID IN THE GOOD WORK,

TERRIBLE CONDITION OF THE UNION PRISONERS. BOW THEY FARE AMONG THE REBELS OF RIGH-MOND—SHAMEFUL AND BRUTAL TREATMENT—POSI-TION OF THINGS IN THAT CITY—NARRATIVE OF A LATE RESIDENT, ETC., ETC.

We are put in possessive of some interesting informa-

ative to matters transpiring in the rebel capital, Richmond, by the arrival of a respectable person named Michael Martin, who resided in that city for the space of eighteen months prior to the present difficul Mr. Martin is a seaman by profession, but has been

an ployed on public works at Richmond for some time. He is a Union man, and A wing come on to Norfolk, was smitted to Fortress monroe under a flag of truce. He loft Richmond on the 15th instant, and arrived in New York on Thursday last, having blessed his stars for his fortunate and opportune escape from the hands of the

The principal information which Martin seems most sirous to impart is with regard to the condition and treatment of the Union prisoners at Fichmend. This he describes as being the most brutal and savage known to modern civilization, and a speedy retribution is being earnestly called for upon the heads of those who thus transform themselves into the hideous double forms of uman persecutors and rebels. As each feiter transmitted to the North by the Union prisoners is opened and read at Richmond before its transmission, they have not an opportunity of lay-ing bare to their friends here the terrible sufferings to which they are daily subjected, and the taunts and sneers which are cast upon them at almost every step they take. By these statements of Martin it would appear that our esoldiers are placed in a most frightful position. The rights of honorable warfare, not to mention those of Christian civilization and tender heartedness, are not, in the slightest manner, regarded, and our b ethren of the South act towards their trethren of the North with a barbarity that can only be equalled by the sanguina y

There were at the time Martin left Richmond between also and ten hundred Union prisoners confined in the tobacco factories of that city, most of them being situated on Main street. Among these were some of the Sixty. ninth, Fourteenth and Fire Zouave regiments of New York, as well as all those priseners taken at Leesburg They are crowded into small rooms from 150 to 200 at a time, and nothing in the smallest way provided for their time, and nothing in the smallest way provided for the it time, and nothing in the smallest way provided for the it conficts and convenience, so that their condition may be more eastly imagined than described. They sleep upon the bare floors, without covering on any description, most of them being nearly nude. The state of fifth which necessarily castes from this mode of living Martin obscribes as perfectly frightful, and the seer feature present a truly deplorable appearance. By way of aggravating their smillerings, they are josted at anal instanced by their rebellations. A favorite practice among the rebellsoidiery is to stand around the prisons, and with a 1-front head is seen to poke itself out from a window, they practice fring to a large extent, generally with an excelent aim. From this horrible practice it appears that several have lost their lives, and mambers are wounded from the builts that come whitzing through the windows when no head has appeared to granify the bile old intends of their captors. The food with which the Unionies are provided a asso of the very worst description. They receive two ments, jet day, consisting of rice and polatoes, and from the low for any object of the seed of the weight of the footing against those unfortunate in in throughout the while footing against those unfortunate in in throughout the while commanity is also savagely strong, and had the pop ace their free will they would mascane every one of them in cold blood. Added to all those hourships that had the homose we then foot the nine housdred prison of all those is a his house the present into anong them is a man cell of currier most provided as seen as the same and the properties of the size have got to life down and all without care, attendance or medicine of any sort. The only person among the rebels at Richmand who at all shows the prisoners any sympathy is a man caled Currier master.

tendance or medicine of any sort. The only jerson among the robots at Richmond who at all shows the prisoners any sympathy is a man on hed contrementer Warner, who does all in his power to alleviate the somerange engendered from the terrible treatment. He his provided several blankers for their see amondation, and every point at which relief can be obtained, without being injurious to his position in the rebenservier, he voluntarily keeps open to hose opproved narryers to the third cause. This specimen of generous himself yamang an easie of dyravity and vileness is described on the his hest commendated, and the name of Warner will be honored by all who may escape from the langs of the robots. The robots have also refused to allow any a size in the prisons, several pitying we men having offered their services. A large number of the citizens of Richmond were in favor of making the Unions a wook in the coal pits, and the matter was under serious consideration.

And now that this is the fearful condition of these men who have offered their lives and services in defence of our ropuble, they turn their cytes in supportation to the North, in order that they may be released from this has havons servicules. They are hig with hope that their triends in this region, for whome so by they lot their fireshess to do or to die, with not let their pine away in a foul and position tall Southern prison, without making the most strenuous executions for their release. This hope it is which nerves them and the gloom and horror of their cells and thength their parties in may for a time receive a shock, yet, when once more rateed to the air or the free North, it will revive again and burst for with miles for or and warmth than before.

The progress of rebotion in Richmond is pursuing the even tonor of its way with the usual fire and fay. So

The progress of red line is the term of the progress of red line is the term of the progress of red line is the term of the progress of the term of th

stream of rampait and madelening do trine all these who come within its votters.

There was in process of f-rmation at the Tredegar Works in inclinuoud a machine intended to not against the blockading vesses. It was constructed of sheat from in the form of a segar, and was about from forly to firly feet in length and six feet beam. It was to be proposed by air, manned by six persons, and would work inder the water. It was considered by the people of lichm-aid to be a very form duble apparatus, and great thin a were expected of it.

the water. It was considered by the recoile of Richmand to be a very to midable apparatus, rin great thin a were expected of it.

Off Crancy island the rebels had taken away the lighthouse, and the spikes were cut off at low water mark. The number of reble soldiers in active service at fach mond when our informant leit was between three and four thousand, but the number of sink amounted to over lifteen thousand. These invalided rebel soldiers are and stated to be in the most distressed cun itim, without ciothes, sufficient food of the requisite attendance to alloyate their sufferings. There were between twenty-five and thirty factories filled with the crebel sick. A few days before our informant left there were five thousand sick sent down from Flayd's brigade, the greater portion of whom died soon after their arrival. The reign of death is no doubt insugarated in Richmond, and consternation casts its dark pell upon the fated city. From Yorktows there also came about nine thousand sick. She is were being built all over the city to accommodate these sufficiers; but the right was as great that one half could scarcely be projectly bossed.

Troops, as fact as they could be concentrated, were being sent down to Yorktow, a report being around that there were over 40,000 "Yankees" in that withinly. The feeling manifested on reception of the news that Misson and Slidel were captured partook more of genuine satisfaction than the counterparts of the news that Misson and Slidel were captured partook more of genuine satisfaction than the content of the counterparts of the news that Misson and Slidel were captured partook more of genuine satisfaction that the content of the counterparts of the counterparts.

ing maintested on reception of the news that Mison and Slidell were captured partock more of genuine satisfaction than othe wise. Nearly every person expressed the conviction that England would at once declare war and break the blockade, when the North would at once be annihilated. They expressed the conviction that we could wing them upon the water, but when it come to laid encounters, the South was sare to conquer. Provisions were enormously high in the city. There were but low vessels in Richmond. The steamer Jamestown was lying up in dock and was a misd, ready for departure, but could get no crow to man her.

On arriving at Norfolk, Martin was present at an unsuccessful attempt to lainch the Merritage. From Norfolk has was conveyed to Forties Mource, and thence to New York, arriving at the date above mentioned.

EXPERIENCE OF QUARTERMASTER MURPHY, LATE OF THE THETY-EIGHTH NEW YORK STATE VOLUN-THE THE WOUNDED OF BULL RUN AND ITS BOSPITALS—APPECTING SCENES OF SUFFERING— HOW OUR PRISONES FARE AT RICHMOND—NECES-BITY FOR A SPEEDY EXCHANGE, ETC., ETC. We have received the following communication from

Quartermaster Murphy, late of the Thirty eighth New York State Volunteers (Scott Life Guard), who was taken prisoner at the battle of Bull run, and who made his cacape from Richmond. The narrative will be found of much interest:--

TO THE EDITOR OF THE RESALD. CORNER OF NELSON AND COURT STREETS, BROOKLIN, Dec. 11, 1061. Corpaps a short recital of the perils and anxio-

ties that our prisoners at Richmond are subject to would prove interesting at this time to your readers, from one who was taken prisoner at the battle of Manasas, and who escaped from Richmond in company with two other officers, after having been confited there nearly two months. Subject to all the harassing thoughts of cap-tivity, racked with uncertainty and the worst of appre hensions, makes me feel keenly for the sufferings of those noble men who are now confined in Richmond and other Southern cities, who, to their credit be it said, discained to run, refusing to purchase safety at the expense of their honor; and now that the government is determining on an exchange of prisoners, O! for all sakes, and for the sake of hu-

in prisoners, i.e. it is denoted as specially as possible. It should be the determination of every Northern man to recouse them from the cloud which now surrounds them, far tream their families, in an enemy is country, scheet to all them from their families, in an enemy is country, scheet to all them there is not have the most remoted bean por the slightest conception of, and which makes them just chooses of commiseration and pity. Although nost of them have expressed a while guess to stay and saider as long as in answers the purpose of the government that they should as so, yet they come to principle which would interfere with the general jodicy of the government.

The memorahoe 21st of July will live in my infinite and long as memory hasty, but it is not my intention here for the control of the control

never be described; and I, having been testemate enough to have escaped from that gloemy prison, after the greatst sufferings, and feeling for these I have left beind me in a officement, am prompted to the great of your valuable journal, beging that my verify value leads of your valuable journal, beging that my verify value leads reach these who have the power to case theirs in times legislative halls where this movement is about being discut sed, will be my ap 1 gy for willing the about being discut sed, will be my ap 1 gy for willing the ab Bright or a subject which interests us to sengrest a degice.

CHALLES J, MCRESTY.

Late Qualtermister 38th regiment N, Y, S, V, I

The following letter has been addressed by governal medical men of distinction in the semy to the President, in the hore that a suitable resition may be availed to

in the hope that a suitable position may be awarded to

Quartermister Murphy, for his bravery and coolers.—

Washurines City, Nov. 25, 1561.

Hox. A. Lixcolx, Prestrict Carlet State — your favorable notice Leaten and Charlet State — your favorable notice Leaten and Charlet Murphy, Quartermister of the Thirty eighth regiment N. Y. S. V. Licetenant Murphy remained with these goins at Sodiey church, offer the bettle of Pail run, and devoted hims it to the care of the wounded, and though repeatedly arged to fly with the rest of the army, he most noby refused, in the ground that not the man could be spaced from constant care of the wounded, and choose rather to seek death or imprison ment, than leave the brave solviers to die on ment, than leave the brave solviers to die on ment, than leave the chart species, by his corgy and activity, was greater than any other the men, and from the cree of the light until the tolerwin high, when he was removed to Manassan, he did not take a moment's rest, but like a noble hearted and go a roll and an are as he is, gave he self entergy up to the sufering night, when he was removed to Manassau, he did not take a moment's rest, but like a noble hearted and g a rous man, as he is, gave his sof entries up to the suffering men around him. After reaching Manassas, their, himself years were alload 'Poetor,' and the rebets supposing him to be one—was offered parole, but when he cound that a safetent number of surgeous were to return to at tend the wounded, he mest peremiterly refused to accept it, and was taken prisoner to life mand. On my arrival in that city I to and him engaged in carring for the wounded federal soldiers there, as he had been at Suday Charch Hospital. I feel that the conduct of their third hy ments the wormest commendate, is that with ample time and means of escape, he sacrafted even his therety for those who had no just claim on him. Very respectfully,

Surgeon First Manesota Volunteers.

WM. F. SWIAM,

Asst. Surgeon Fourteeath N. Y. S. M.

FOSTER SWIFT, M. D.

Surgeon Eighth N. Y. Star Mintal,

Asst. Surgeon Eighth N. Y. Star Mintal,

Asst. Surgeon Eighth N. Y. S. M.

LETTER FROM A UNION PRISONER IN EIGHMOND—

LETTER FROM A UNION PRISONER IN BICHMOND-

THE PIRST CALIFORNIA REGIMENT-PRISONERS BE-LONGING TO IT, ETC., ETC.
Mrs. Louis Bieral, wife of Captain Bieral, of this city, and who new commands Company G, of the First Cali-fornia regiment, recently received a letter from her husband, dated at Camp Observation, Adamstown, Montgomery county, Maryland. With the letter was the subjoined communication from a member of his company, who, with four of his comrades, was taken prisener at

who, with four of his comrades, was taken prisoner at the battle of Eall's Bluft:—

RICHMOND, Dec. 1, 1861.

CAPT. B.EBAL:—DEAR SRE—No doubt you have received, long ere thus, the names of those of us that are here of Company G. But knowing that a few lines would be received from us with pleasure on your part, I have sat down to write you. We have been here now nearly six weeks, and have not heard from our old comrades. I wish you would write to me and let me know particularly about my brother John, and, in fact, the whole company. I give you the names of all that are here:—Patrick Burns, John Vance, Jeseph Wallace, Adam Gell, Joseph Aelmore, Wm. Pleas. We are all well at present, none of them being wounded but myself, and that very slightly, receiving a buckshot in my right leg. The shot remains in, but does not trouble me any. You will please tell (e.o. Suily to write to Patrick Burns, John Vance size wants his brother to write to him, and also to write home if he has not done so already. I would like to receive a letter from you, also John Geary. Burns wants Eddy Mann or Ferrigan to write to his father for him. Hoping that I may receive an answer, if only a few lines, from you, I remain youts, truly.

Ploase address:—Prisoner of war, Eichmond, VA, Callfornia regiment. fornia regiment.

ANOTHER LETTER FROM A UNION PRISONER AT RIGHMONID—DEFAUPUL CONDITION OF OUR WOUND-ED ROLDERS—REMOVAL OF SOME OF THEM TO TUSCALOOSA, ETC., ETC.

Corporal Merri'l, of the New Thirteenth regiment, now Rochester Emres, under date of the 1st inst. He says:-Another menth gone, and still looking through the bars of a prison window; and, judging the future by the past, we have also nour "stand in Divis" land? to "live and sie; in likio" for some time to come. Now this sort of life may agree with some; but so far as I am concerned I am satisfied with what experience I have already had of

am satisfied with what experience I have already and of prigon life.

It is a great consolation for us to know that our friends at the No. th are doing all they can towards bringing about an exchange of prisoners, and we are quite condident that they will in the end success! but the delay on the part of the government officials in the matter is to us here quite becomerchensible.

The brave mean new qualined here and in other Southern prisons would be the hast once to press the subject upon the government, did they think for a men in the mere act of an exchange would comprenies the administration in the least. They would sooner remain in their present condition for years than have the government consent to an exchange at the sacrifice of a single principle.

cip.o.

Much has already been written and published in regard

Much has already been written in different prisons in Much has already been written and published in regard to the federal prisoners now lying in different prisons in the Southern States, and it must be pretty generally known by this time throughout the North that there is a great amount of soffering among the many hundre is brought here from Manassas in a suffering and destitute condition, and that nothing has been done by the United States thus far to alleviate their distress.

It is impossible to describe with the pen the actual condition of brave men who wont forth at their country's call, and who have unfortunately fallen into the hands of the enemy, I have heard many of them say, could they have their choice to die on the floid of battle or to fail into the hands of the enemy, to be left in a prison for months, with but little prespect of release, that they would choose the first.

There has been a good deal of sickness and several deaths of late among the prisoners, resulting in many cases from wour. Several handred were sent to Tescaloosa, Ala., last week. Many of them were really objects of pity. It was a painful sight to see the poor fellows marched off to their Southern prison. Some of them were coatless and without shoes, and all very poorly clad.

It has been rumored bere for a few days post that the

forts to the prisoners. I sim orely hope that the rumor is not without to induction. They are needed bad enough, God knows.

Humanity, justice and right demand that something be done at one elec the many hundreds who now pine in various So thera prisons.

Mr. Ely entinues is good health, and his spirits are as light as ever. He has a great many visiters, and nony requests for no custions that the would just step to the windows, that they may get a look at him through the bars, but M. E. has no sanotion to exhibit himself to the gazing multitude in this way. John o. Breeckinding called upon bim a new days silve, and expressed has sympathy to him. He promised if Ely that he would such is inducence to precipe him release.

As a game at thing, the officient colory themselves very well. They expect to all sorts of expedients to make their imprisonment agreeable and placament. They have established a "Rectiment Prison Association," having for its object the health and comfort of his members, and the care if all new comes.

Mr. Hy is freshiont of the association, and, in the impringe it a sectionant from indicata, "he makes a good one if the Court indicate it he self, and it think has do." These necetings as a very plannant source of am sense. We sometimes have a court martial, shain drifts and dress parad s. We have the daily papers and other reading inatter.

Soyens, it indired letters have been received by the prisoners within a few days. Though the kindness of the officers in charge of this past we are caused to comminct the without particular in the North by every opportening. In his received but one letter since my capture, and that was over the emoths ago. Letters usually come three give good time.

OUR TRIS GALES AT CHARLESTON—INTERESTING LETTER FROM CALLAIN FIRE, OF COURTANY C. FREN

come through in good time.

OUR PRISON, IRS AT CHARLESTON—INTERESTING LETTER FROM CALLAR FIRST, OF COMPANY C. FIRST
CALIFORNIA INGUINET—URGENT AFFRAL FOR AN
EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS, ETC., ETC.
The following is a copy of a letter received by Col.
Matheson, of the Thi ty see and regiment New York State
Volunteers, from Robert A. Figh, Capitals of Company E., Volunteers, from konert A. Fish, tay tain of company E., First California regiment. Capt. Fish is now in the hands of the reb ds at Charleston, and it will be a mixtor of interest to know how our soldiers are faring in that section, while it in we the necessity of providing for an

of interest to know how our southers are faing in that section, while it is was the necessity of providing for an exchange of prisoners:—

Charleson, Dec. I, 1861.

My I have Colorest—Your letter of October 14 wha received November 5, whose when I have not heard from any one. You intunted that you would send a box of cothing, Sec. If you have I have not received it. I am really in want of clothing and of money, and an entirely at a loss how to inner you so that I may be relieve. The risk of not getting a box is so great that is axis you not to send one. I think if you will require lifty or a hundred dollars to the commenting officer at Fortress Monree, he would be able to error at with safety if any one could. It is impose his to give a permanent is telling on us aff. I have we saw the last of Surgeon for sword of the lifting eighth New Y it. Scott Lie and d. Where disease takes one now we have no vitality to shake to de. If our eveniment does not do not thought on the first am not the same. I werked hand to get up the Fred Callo nis regiment, and I love a deadly. It records had that my efforce are to be but and our yet up the first Callo nis regiment, and I love a deadly. It records had the presence of the month of the first of the to be unknown rave to a low weeping robusions. To S nators Latisan and Mero as I and my rioms sind the prisones of much their estrations exceed the release. It is a same that these who have labored an impulsible so well suremain the process of micro that the exceedance of the restriction of the my suremain and the same of the restriction and the limits placed upon their centents by the otherical of letters never reaching their centents of relations, and the limits placed upon their centents of relations, for his my writing to my become mather and the limits placed upon their centents by the authorities, for his my writing to my become mather and dear restre, and sea until 1 cand not do so. The known by festings and my undergoes write to my sureman and the limits placed upon their centents by the authorities, for his my writing to my become mather and dear restre, and sea until 1 cand not do so. The known by festings and my undergoes. I can be a sureman and the mint placed upon their centents by the surface, and the bistory of the First Califeria a symmet will be a past one.

My leve to are mant I own and Company S, and all of the regiment — the usernative dealers, a classification of the regiment, with the cest of the field officers, a classification of the regiment, with the cest of the field officers, a classification of the company of the with you all. Yours over.

Capt. Capt. Campany E First Cantornia regiment.

Capt. Capt. Campany E First Cantornia regiment.

ANOTHER LETTER FROM A UNION PRISONER IN CHARLESTON - DEATH OF DR. GRISWOLD, PRO. CHARLESTON, S. C., Nov. 21, 161. DEAD JANE-Till is the first opportunity Theyo had of

writing to you see to ft Richmond, and I need hardly say that it 500 great pleasure, even though t great pleasure, even though I by I sin well. Thank God, I have be a since I nerally speaking so have all the we died-two belonging to the nd one in yesterday marning, of Hirty-eighth regiment of New Curiswed, he lived as Greene, the call in his wife, and teel her he to call on his wife, and teel her he all West Thirty fourth street, near f ver, teleng a 

INTERESTING LATERS FROM AN OFFICER OF THE SIX-TY-NINTH BELLIAMY NEW YORK STATE MULITIA— NUMBER CI., AS SEAS AT TUSCALOUSA—HOW THEY ARE THEALS.—FILLING OF THE INHABITANTS— FRICE OF THOYOGONS, ETC., ETC.

The following but a from an officer of the Sixty-minth regiment, New York State Militia, who was taken prisoner at the batter tull run, and nent to Turnslorma, Ala., will be found highly interesting to the majority of our read rec-Turcatoo A, Ala., Pec. 5, 1561.

our read-rs.—

Texalogs, Ala, Pec, 5, 1561.

I kan I keema — am happy to state that I am it good haith, and sine rely hope that you all enjoy the same. I wrote to you in a Richanond on Nevember 22, and was removed from there on the same day, arriving here becombe 2, after traveling a distance of seventeen hundred and fifty miles, and am now quartered in a building formerly occupied by the legislature of this face. Our aparting are an especie to those of the tobacco factory at behamole, and are occupied at present by twenty officers and four hundred and severty-live privates. The officers have two rooms twenty one by thirty feet, with a hall between, and two large ballouiss and three large our journey treated us very kindly, and no accident occured on the way. The efficer who had charge of us was very good indeed, and while we were three days in Montgomery, waiting for means of transportation, he purchased some aboat for those who were bacefooted, and gave away his own blankots to some who had scarcely any clothing at all. A great many are very poorly off for clothes yet.

Our route was from Richmond via the Petersburg Rail-

any cottning as an civiles of the Petersburg Rail-code to Weldon, through Wilmington, N. C.; from there to Augusta, Ga.; passed through West Point to Monigom-ery, down the Alabama river to the Tombighee; travelled up that river, when the Black Warrier took us to Turca-

up that river, when the Black Warrior took us to Tuccalocas.
Provisions are not so dear here as they were in Richmond. Coffee, three pounds for \$1, butter, 30c, per lb.; sweet petatees, 40c, por bushels; coal, 9c, per bushel. It will be gratifying to those in New York who have friends here to know that they are alive; so I will give you a list of those belonging to the Sixty-ninth—Thos. Mentpumery, Co. A.
John Kerr, Co. B.
Jam. Keftenness, O. B.
Jam. Kane, Co. K.
John Brown, Co. L.
James Kane, Co. K.
John Brown, Co. E.
John Brown, Co. E.
John Brown, Co. E.
Michael Rennans, Co. G.
Michael Rennans, Co. G.
Michael Rennans, Co. B.
John Marony, Co. A.
Dennis Shorton, Co. B.
John Marony, Co. A.
Dennis Shorton, Co. B.
John Marony, Co. A.
Dennis Shorton, Co. B.
P. Penlam, Co. A.
Dennis Shorton, Co. B.
John Marony, Co. A.
Dennis Shorton, Co. B.
John Maron, Co. B.
J

tionate brother, JAMES GARMON,
Lieutenant Co. H, Sixty-utath regiment, N. Y. S. M.
Direct your letter in care of Captair Griswood, Tueca

LETTER FROM LIEUTENANT BAGLET. Alderman JAMES BAGLEY:-

DEAR BROTHER-We left Richmond for this place on Fri day, November 22, arriving in Peteraburg (where poor Alec. died) on the evening of the same day; changed cars for Welden, North Carolina, when a special train was entor women, North Carolina, when a special train was en-gaged to carry us through to Montgomery, Ala. I need not enumerate the many little incidents that occurred during our rapid travelling down to Dixie's Land; suffice it to say that the usual query of "What did you come down have forth was answered by the boys with such as "We are the advance guard of Lincoln's a my, waiting to be relieved," and "Came down to seek a farm," &c., &c. A large crowd of the good peo, le of Aigusta, Ga., welcomed us to their city on Sin ay, 24th, and during our two hours stry attracted considerable curiosity from them. The wonder full exploits of the Sixty-nimh at Manassas are not unknown to the citizens of this section of the coloury, and when one of them is seen he attracts great attention. The peo fellows are aim at naked, and heaves knows what will be their fate if confined here until summer.

great attention. The poor fells wis are aim at naked, and heavea knows what will be their fate if confined here until summer.

We reached Montgomery on Monday at two P. M., and were conducted by our points and gentlemanly guard (he Fourth Louistana batted on) to our quarters, near the river, where the officers, twenty in number, we've accommodated with wall tents, and the privates (one hunde) and aftry under shods. We here so, nt tour days waiting the return of the steamer that was to convey us to our destination. On Friday we emba ked with 350 additional prisoners on board the freight bost Averly, and after a pleusant passage up the atab may. Tombigbee and Black War, for rivers—distanced from Montgomery 800 miles—we on the fourth day arrived at Tescalcoss—a very handsome little city, once the capital of the State, but now the so, to a mineary school and a fine lumatic asylom—the latter place about to be our permanent home while resident in the South but at present we occupy the Washington H tel, situated on the principal street of the city. Our Commissary, Capt. Griswold, C. S. A., thinks that it is very probable we may remain here ally winter; if so, we will be q.i.e. comfort, be, and will remain without murmaring.

Your incore, has not yet come. It will take some time for us to hear from Richmond, as this place is over 1,700 miles from the seat of the C. niede, at government, and then the communication is not direct, so I must wait patiently.

I have already allided in a former letter to the extraordicary unanimity of sentiment of the people of the South in regard to this war. All whom i conversed with a dwarfish place appears a simust entirely deserted of its hinheliants, tacy having endored the a my to repet as they term usy vilincole is hardes," riessians, Indians, and many other ship epithets, it is time our government-looks this fact square in the taco. Our troops have been worsted in almost every battle. The enemy have certainly provet themselves a beinggrent power. The correct are so that the oles.

Y

Love to all the .c.ks.
Your affectionate brother,
OHN BAGLEY,
Lieutonant Company E, 69th regime

Mr. Charles Anderson on Secession and

An immense audience assembled on Saturday evening at the Cooper Institute to listen to an address from Mr.

Charles Anderson, brother to General Robert Anderson the heroic defender of Fort Sumter. Long previous to the opening of the doors a large crowd besieged the main entrance, clamerous for numission, and when they were thrown open in a few minutes the body of the ball was filled in every part. Mr. Charles Anderson is a lawyer by profession, was born in Louisville, Ky., and educated at Manni University, Oxford, Ohio. He followed his profession in l'ayton for a number of years, then removed to incinnati, and was ongaged there in partnership with the grand on of Rofus King. He was there a prominent politician, and supported the party of Mr. Heary Clay auring the lifetime of that statesman. About four years ago he removed to Texas, and employed bimself as a carmer with considerable success till he was driven from thence by the rebeis.

Dr. Adams and Wm. E. Dodge, Esq., at the appointed

on motion Mr. Dodge was appointed to preside. On coming forward to deliver his address, cheer after cheer stored he commenced by remarking that if his exposures ordis and dangers had been tenfold greater the nthusias ie reception given to him by his pro sent audience would have fully compensated him.
It was not his intention to dwell upon the great quesperiences in Texas. He became an object of public ver gennes in that State b. cause he was an unchanged and onchangeable Union man. (Loud cheers.) He begged his audience to believe that he stood before them, not as a solita an or indeenced at all by party, but simply as an American catzen. Gloomy forebodings came over disastrons consequences of the last few months would sollow. He outered at considerable length into the varifollow. He entered at considerable length into the various political inectings that took place in Toxas previously to the claraption, form which he bressay that a deep laid political enteres, is should Mr. Lincoln be executed, to sever units with the forth. This state of reciting was produced to a great extent by the memor so of the delden Crede, who used every exertion to seduce the people from their allestance to the Union. When the lenders of the Toxas is a projected their treason, they hoped that the power of the gland would be used in their favor. He then read from a newspaper has reply to a Dr. flowing, at a political meaning in Texas. The recotor advocated strongly secession, and and on long randomy, treason the address, to which he this lender? responded in a strong Union upone, the representation of the content of the Mr. Bowring.—

(the reading of this extract designed the audience, and che's, a ter theor followed in quite succession).

there is there or must ween a west there belle will all shape the search of the continuous control of the case of the search of the control of the case o

no power to seize and detain a citizen for whatever he might have said, written or done, and that he would never succumb to them (applause)—that he was of the same blood as he of Sumter-(loudcheers)—that he came from good Revolutionary stock—(applause)—and that the present revolution had not decased within him the principles of the Revolution of 1796. This ended the correspondence, and they were sent to the camp and closely confined. Two days after his imprisonment he wrote to his family strict injunctions to trust a Mexican revolution in proference to the Southern confederacy. (Applause.) He was again offered his parcie, but ref-seed to accept jit. He desired that his whe she ad have twenty days' time to ge from Matamoras, and he then began to generat plaus for his escape, and made the then began to generat plaus for his escape, and made the head began to generat plaus for his escape, and made the head began to generat plaus for his escape, and made the head began to generat plaus for his made the his began to generate plaus for his escape, and made the head ended him to play ba kyammon, and succeeded, while playing the game, to conve as with him about his car per one temesticus night he made an excess, went out, and found an office who was asles p, bade him good night, and walked of. The first day they we e vary point, but they put into his tent a heutonant to keep him company. On the next day a broth referred him to head outside to watch him: then another, and another—the last a celibrated pistol shot. Thus four were continually watch is ghim. He always—to show his watchers that he was last e his tent, as though he were in the nate r House, and tied his tent inside. He had, however, a pair of shees in his trunk, and hiving put them on, he lifted up one side of the tent and e-caped to Moxico, and no Mexican ever shouted—God and libertyl as enhusiants by as he did. He than proceeded to Tan, i.e., whose he tound his little confederate of the backgammon box. He related to him the consternation of the secessions

## FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

SUNDAY, Dec. 22, 1861. The import movement of last week was light i dry goods, but rather heavy in general merchant dise. The leading imports of the latter were:-Indige... \$123,227 Sugar \$149,569 Hides... 122,004 Tea... 367,546 Guns... 303,181 Wool 181,172 Coffee... 159,216

The steady importation of these articles, in spite of the present condition of the country, should prove instructive to the Committee on Ways and Means in Congress. The duty on tea, coffee, sugar and hides might be considerably increased without reducing the consumption. The revival of species shipments occurs, with appropriateness, simultaneously with the increase in our imports. We exported last week more gold than we had done for three months previously. Happily, our produce exports continue on a liberal scale. The following are the official tables for the - k and

since January 1:-Dry goods . . . . \$2,842,223 1,277,894 Ceneral mercha disc 2,144,400 1,429,421 Total for the week. \$4,986,629 2,707,315 2,347,915 Previously reported. 227,448,717 218,958,257 119,193,57 Since Jan. 1.....\$232,435,346 221,665,672 121,541,4:3

EXPORTS OF PRODUCT AND MAR HANDESK.
1859. 1869. 1869. 1869.
For the week...... \$2.112.963 3.562.452 3.726.235
Previously reported... 63.579.562 94.685,129 127,922,223 Since Jan. 1......\$65,652,555 98,247,581 131,648,523 EXPORTS OF SPECIE. 1859. 1860.

For the week...... \$152,512 2,600 453,614 Previously reported. 63.979,153 42.574,737 8,405,885

Since Jan. 1.......\$64,131,665 42,676,787 3,860,429 'The bank statement, which will be made up tomorrow afternoon, will be looked for with some anxiety, as it will shed a useful light upon the specie movement. On Monday last the banks showed a specie average of \$39,435,478, which was a decrease during the week ending December 14 of \$2,883,132. It is generally supposed in Wall street that the average to be published to-morrow will be in the neighborhood of \$37,000,000. If so, the banks will have lost nearly \$6,000,000 in a fortnight, less than \$500,000 of which has gone abroad. In the face of these facts, the banks evince undue sensitiveness when they seek to prohibit discussion upon the natural tendency of the present state of things. It is better for the banks, better for the government, better for the people, that the truth should be looked boldly in the face. Alarm and panic are the fruit-not of the calm discussion of well established facts but of attempts to conceal what is true, and to deny in public what everybody admits in private. As matters stand at present, the expenses of government are being defrayed by the proceeds of Mr. Chase's last negotiation with the banks. Of this ten per cent will be paid in tomorrow, making thirty per cent pald in all, and leaving seventy per cent still liable to call. It is estimated that only about two-thirds of this seventy per cent will be paid in money, and the balance in Treasury notes and demand notes. However, Mr. Chase believes that he will thus derive means sufficient to carry on the war till about January 15. On or about that day his exchequer will be exhausted. No plan for its replenishment has yet been ventilated. When Mr. Chase was here last week he laid no project before the banks, and they laid none before him. It was, indeed, hinted by the Secretary that in the course of the corrent month events would transpire which would change the funncial prospects of the government, and would render it easy to place loans among the people, not only in this country, but abroad. It is carnestly to be hoped that the prediction will be verified. Startling and decided successes would probably enable the banks to place the second fifty million of 7.30 notes in the course of a few weeks, and, in this event, they could at once lend Mr. Chase as much more. But if any mischance should prevent the realization of the hopes expressed by the Secretary, what then? It is the part of prudence not only to foresee this result, but to examine it in all its bearings, to study how it would affect trade and the currency, and to be prepared for its effects if disappointment should await us. This is what is being done daily, not only by speculators, who are looking out for the contingency of gold rising to a premium, but by merchants engaged in trade with foreign countries, who are purchasing from contractors Sub-Treasury certificates, and by bankers, who are stipulating in effecting loans that they must be returned in coin or its equivalent. Let us hope that the successes of our armies will be so rapid and so thorough in the next three weeks that these speculations may fail, and these precediens prove needless. Money was cary at the commencement of last

week; but soon after the news from England was received the banks called in their loans, and refused to renew them. Call loans rose at once to 7 per cent, and something over, and there was for a day or two great difficulty in getting money even at these rates. Yesterday and day before money was more abundant, but it is still easy to employ funds in Wall street at 6 a 7 per cent. This will be good news to many capitalsts whose means have been lying idle for a long period of time. They will be quite willing to take the place of the banks in lending money, and the latter will by and by discover that they have nothing to gain by shutting out their customers. Paper is scarce; the best names sell readily at 7 per cent.

Foreign exchange rose last week to 111, and closed at 110% for sterling, and 5.15 a 12% for francs. At these rates there is a profit on shipments of specie, and we look for a steady flow of coin to Europe until the rates of exchange decline. It is probable that this will not be long delayed. We have not imported enough, and we have exported too much, to owe much on the other side. At the same time, foreigners who are afraid of war are remitting their means to Europe, and many European houses are directing their correspondents here not to wait till they have sold goods consigned to them, but to remit at once.

The panic caused by the British war intelligence will be found reflected in the above comparison of prices. It is just a week since the intemperate onlaught of the British press upon the United States

CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE

The following table shows the course of the stock

and the reported hostile attitude of the British government were known here. Since then the decline in stocks has varied from 3 to 8 per cent. Yesterday and day before there was a partial rally, and some of the decline was recovered, mainly in consequence of the belief that the demands of the British government will not be found as excessive as was at first supposed, and that, in any event, it is not in the power of this country, engaged as we are in a life struggle at home, to embark in a foreign war. It seems admitted on all hands, at present, that our government must con. cede whatever England demands, in order to crush out the rebellion, and that our accounts with Great Britain will be settled hereafter. The prospect of the stock market has thus been sensibly improved. Should Secretary Chase's predictions be fulfilled, and decisive successes await our arms, it may be expected that stocks will respond in a marked de. gree. The price of Erie, Galena and several of the Western shares is less than is justified by the earnings of the roads; while the price of United States sixes, Missouris, &c., is far lower than is warranted by the real condition of affairs. The market, however, will not move, in all probability, until some at least of the uncertainties of the future are definitely determined. The policy pursued by Great Britain towards this country cannot fail to have its effect in shap-

ing our national legislation. It is abundantly evident now that England has only been waiting for a protext to attack us ever since the rebellion broke out. For nearly half a century we have lived at peace with England; the causes of quarrel which have arisen, though quite as irritating as the Trent affair, have always been adjusted by the diplomats. Great Britain never dared to provoke war when we were free to develope our whole strength against her. But now, when we are engaged in a struggle for national existence, and every dollar and every man are enlisted in the saered duty of defending the Union, England seizes upon the trumpery informality involved in the capture of the rebel emissaries on board the Trent. and threatens us as she might threaten Peru or Nicaragua. We are told, in a bully-ing strain, that the Warrior is to demand an ultimatum at Annapolis, and that twelve royal men-of-war are to sail up the Potomac to insist on the surrender of Mason and Slidell in view of the White House. Necessity relieves our government from the duty of deciding what course to pursue. It is plain that to embark in a war with Great Britain at the present time would be to risk the success of our campaign against the rebels. It is possible that we might succeed in maintaining our indivisible nationality against England and the rebels combined; but the chance of failure in so grave an enterprise is so great that the country would unhesitatingly sustain Mr. Lincoln in any policy-however humiliating to our national pride-which left us free to employ our whole resources in the great task for which the loyal people have taken arms. After the rebellion is put down the United States will then be free to settle outstanding accounts with England. And when that time comes it will not be forgotten that there is a commercial as well as political question involved in the contest. Great Britain has always claimed to be mistress of the seas. Whenever any other Power has pretended to establish a navy England has interfered and destroyed it. While at perfect peace with Den mark, in 1907, the British destroyed the Danish fleet in the harbor of Copenhagen, from a fear lest t might prove a rival. Before Louis Napoleon no French sovereign ever dared place the French navy on a par with that of England, as the first steps towards such a consummation led to angry remonstrances from England; and at the present time, finding that the French Emperor cannot be deterred from his purposes by threats or remonstrances, England is actually spending \$50,000,000 a year in building ships-of-war. The Crimean war was undertaken mainly in order to cripple the chief result of that war was the destruction of the Russian navy. Faithful to her traditions, the desire of England in seeking a war with us is to destroy our national and mercantile marine. For many years our shipping has competed successfully with hers for the carrying trade of the world, and our growing political power has given a prestige to our small national navy which has stood instead of guns. The next war with England will decide whether England shall continue, as heretofore, to be supreme sover. eign of the ocean, giving to the whims of her pollticians the force of maritime law, and compelling all other nations to submit to them; or whether the United States and other nations shall have an equal voice with Great Britain in adjusting the maritime code. The prospect should teach our government to los e no day in strengthening our steam navy. A flect of iron-clad ships should be contracted for without delay, and such encourage, ments should be offered by Congress for the construction of ocean steamers as will insure us, in the course of next year, a fleet of first class trans ports. Success in war in the present day depends upon the rapidity with which large bodies of men can be moved from place to place. The failure of the Collins line and the refusal of Congress to grant subsidies to European steam lines have given England a great advantage over us in regard to ocean steamships. It should be the business of Congress to correct the errors of the past without delay, and to offer such encouragement to steamship builders as will place us on a par with Great Britain in this respect. If we had the means to effect a landing of troops in Ireland t any moment, or to bombard Liverpool or Southampton successfully, England would not swagger as she does about sweeping our navy from the seas and closing up our Northern ports. CITY COMMERCIAL REPORT. SATURDAY, Dec. 21-6 P. M. Asuse. -The market was steady, and the late advance

one sustained, with small sales at \$6 for both sorts. BREADSTUFFS .- Flour-The market exhibited more firmness, and closed better for shipping grades of common and medium qualities, while the higher grades were unchanged and the demand mederate. The sales embraced about 12,000 bbis., closing within the following range:

-Canadian flour was rather better, with rales of 700 bb's., closing within the above range of prices. Southern flour was beavy for the lower grades, while prime quali-

ties, though not active, were steady. The sales embraced about 1,200 bbls. Rye was heavy at our quotations about 1,200 bbls. Rye was heavy at our quotations Corn meal was quiet and prices unchanged. Wheat was firmer for good spring, while winter red was dull and closed heavy. Prime to choice white was scarce and prices unchanged. The sales embraced about 75,000 bushess at \$1.21 for others white Menigan, \$1.375; a \$1.40 for red Expt. \$1.30 at \$1.20; for amber lowed, \$1.25 at \$1.40 for red Expt. \$1.30 at \$1.25; for amber lowed, \$1.25 at \$1.40 for Northwestern club, \$1.25 at \$1.25 for Northwestern club, \$1.25 at \$1.25 for Northwestern club, \$1.25 at \$1.275 for Red to \$1.25 at \$1.25 for Northwestern club, \$1.25 at \$1.275 for Red to \$1.25 at \$1.25 for Northwestern club, \$1.25 at \$1.275 for Red to \$1.25 at \$1.25 for Northwestern club, \$1.25 at \$1.275 for Red to \$1.25 for Northwestern club, \$1.25 at \$1.25 for Northwestern club, \$1.25 for No